

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 2 and 5-9 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 4 and 10-15 previously were canceled.

Summary of the Official Action

In the Official Action, claims 1, 2 and 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0017710 (Kurishima).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully are requested in view of the following remarks.

Summary of Examiner Interview

Applicant's attorney gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to him by the Examiner in granting a personal interview on February 22, 2006. In that interview, Applicant's attorney discussed various novel features of the claimed invention and presented arguments distinguishing the claimed invention over the cited art. In particular, Applicant's attorney argued that the cited Kurishima '710 publication fails to disclose or suggest the claimed combination of features including a substrate, an insulating material, an interlayer dielectric, and a conductive member disposed in a through hole formed there through and having certain characteristics, as disclosed and claimed in the present application. In particular, the Examiner agreed that the Kurishima '710 publication does not disclose or suggest this combination including the feature of a conductive member being formed over the wall portion of the insulating material from the through-hole. The Examiner stated that further search was required with respect to this claimed combination of features.

For the above reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2 and 5-9 are allowable over the cited art.

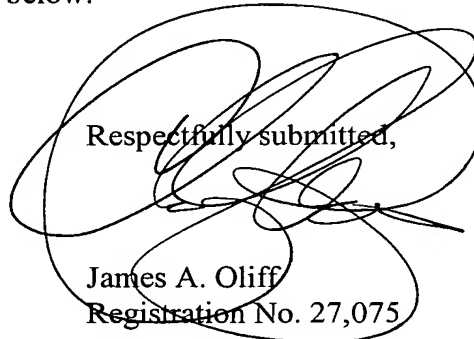
Entry Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Entry of the Response is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the remarks: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the remarks amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The remarks are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the remarks, withdrawal of the final rejection and further examination of the claims respectfully are requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present Response is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action and the personal interview, and submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:CPW

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